



Rev. Barbara J. Cairns
Andrea Rogers Family & Youth Coordinator
and all members of West River United Church
September 20, 2020

MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Christ, the light in the world;
Christ, the light in our homes;
Christ, the light in our hearts;
Christ, the Light.

(The Christ candle is lit.)

♪ 'Spirit God, Be Our Breath' MV 150 vs 1 & 2

Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.
Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.
Our world seems inward, defensive, withdrawn...
Spirit God, be our song.

Patient God: soothe our pride, calm our fear.
Comfort us. When we know you are near we grow more certain,
our vision is clear. Patient God, calm our fear.

CALL ALL TO WORSHIP

Spirit God, we come together in community with joy and expectation.

We come with open hearts. We come to sing, pray, and learn. We come in awe and Thanksgiving.

Bless our worship today. Amen.

PRAYER OF APPROACH & THE LORD'S PRAYER* (IN UNISON)

Holy Mystery, we have come today to celebrate Your gift of love, peace, and joy. We come seeking refreshment and renewal in our spirits and relationships with You and all we meet on our journey. We pray that You bless our gathering today. Amen.

Together we pray saying the words that Jesus taught us saying,
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

♪ **'Children's Hymn – MV 130 – Rise Up, Rise Up – repeated**

Rise up, rise up, rise up, O my soul.

Rise up and sing this blessing to God's name.

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 20:1-16 Message

"God's kingdom is like an estate manager who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. They agreed on a wage of a dollar a day, and went to work. "Later, about nine o'clock, the manager saw some other men hanging around the town square unemployed. He told them to go to work in his vineyard and he would pay them a fair wage. They went. "He did the same thing at noon, and again at three o'clock. At five o'clock he went back and found still others standing around. He said, 'Why are you standing around all day doing nothing?' "They said, 'Because no one hired us.' "He told them to go to work in his vineyard. "When the day's work was over, the owner of the vineyard instructed his foreman, 'Call the workers in and pay them their wages. Start with the last hired and go on to the first.' "Those hired at five o'clock came

up and were each given a dollar. When those who were hired first saw that, they assumed they would get far more. But they got the same, each of them one dollar. Taking the dollar, they groused angrily to the manager, 'These last workers put in only one easy hour, and you just made them equal to us, who slaved all day under a scorching sun.' "He replied to the one speaking for the rest, 'Friend, I haven't been unfair. We agreed on the wage of a dollar, didn't we? So take it and go. I decided to give to the one who came last the same as you. Can't I do what I want with my own money? Are you going to get stingy because I am generous?' "Here it is again, the Great Reversal: many of the first ending up last, and the last first."

SERMON

PASTORAL PRAYER

♪ VU 227- For the Fruit of All Creation- vs 1 & 3

For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.

For the gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God.

For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe keeping,
thanks be to God.

For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

With hearts filled with gratitude, let us bring our gifts and offer our very lives, so that God might work miracles of hope through our giving and our living.

OFFERTORY PRAYER* (*in unison*)

Gracious God, you are the source of all good things, of life itself and all that sustains it. Bless the gifts we offer to you and multiply them, so that they will support your purposes in the world you love in Jesus name. Amen.

♪ MV 182 – Grateful – Chorus Only

Grateful for the life you give us,
thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing
over all, O God of Love.
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
thankful for your Holy Word,
joyful in your mercy flowing,
we will praise you Lord.

BENEDICTION**

Know that God goes with us as we go from here.
Go with purpose and passion, with Christ as our guide.
Go with God's blessings.

POSTLUDE

**Jim McKean, Pentecost 2, 2020 Year A, pg. 38, Gathering*

****ABINGDON WORSHIP ANNUAL, 2020.**

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